

**OBJECTIVE 2.10** Demonstrate acceptable use of safety belts and other occupant protection devices.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Many officers believe in the advantages of using occupant protection devices such as safety belts. There is, however, often a fear of being trapped by the belt or that removing the belt will be time-consuming at a critical moment. Students need to become aware of ways the safety belt can be used without interfering with their job as an officer.

## **CONTENT**

The following method is one which the students should be aware of, use, and demonstrate competently.

1. Methods for putting a safety belt on:
  - a. Reach for safety belt while simultaneously starting the vehicle
  - b. Place foot on brake
  - c. Place the vehicle in drive
  - d. Keep eyes on road, not on safety belt
  - e. Position lap and shoulder belt in acceptable position while driving
2. Method for taking safety belt off in emergency and non-emergency situations:
  - a. Release as you start to open the vehicle door
  - b. Guide belt away from body
  - c. Secure vehicle
3. Properly adjust the safety belt, considering shoulder harness and lap belt.

**SUMMARY**

Through practical experience the officer can develop a systematic approach for use of the safety belt. Each student can become proficient in using the safety belt, thus eliminating some of the fears they may have regarding safety belt use.

**SUGGESTED INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY****RANGE**

While wearing a duty belt, have each student practice getting in and out of safety belt in a non-emergency situation by using an acceptable method for putting the belt on and releasing the belt.

Simulate or re-create the emotional stress associated with an emergency situation.

**RESOURCES AND AIDS**

1. Driver training vehicle with operational safety belt system
2. Duty belt equipped with gear representative of on-the-job performance

**SUGGESTED EVALUATION METHODOLOGY****STUDENTS**

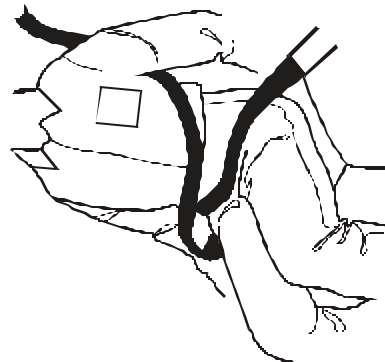
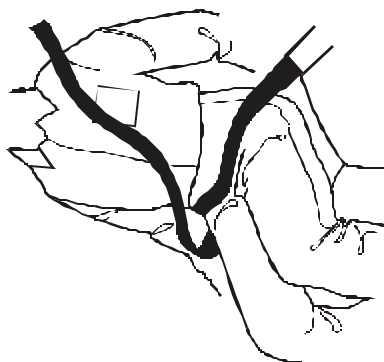
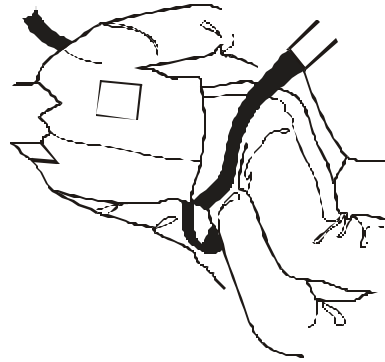
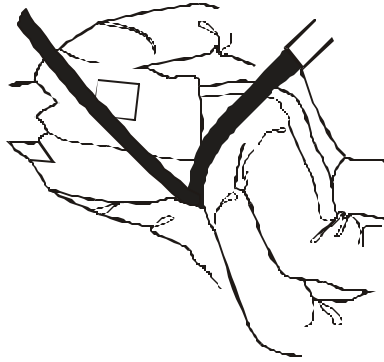
1. Observation of officer utilizing an acceptable method of safety belt usage during non-emergency driving
2. Observation of officer utilizing an acceptable method for release of a safety belt during non-emergency driving
3. Observation of safety belt usage and release usage during simulated emergency or pursuit situations that create adrenaline and emotional sensations typically experienced during those conditions

**COURSE**

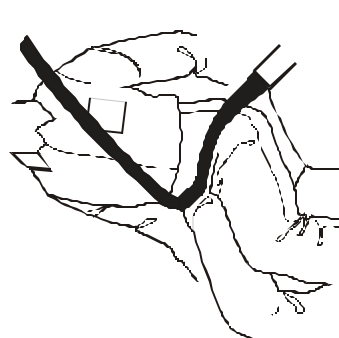
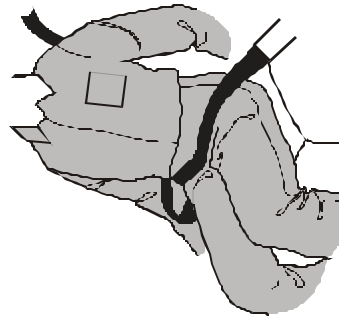
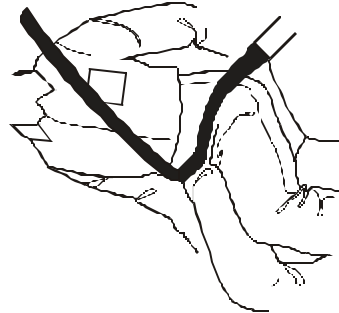
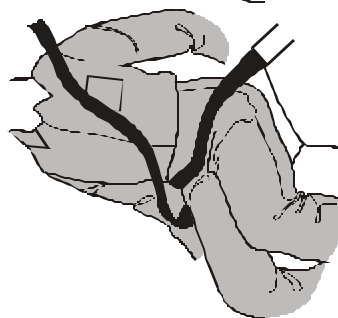
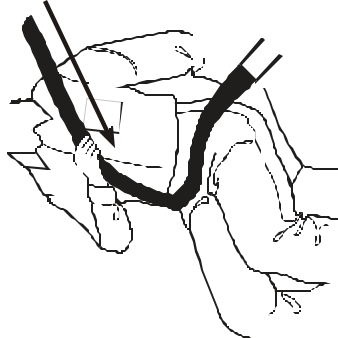
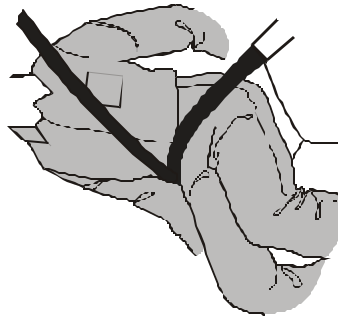
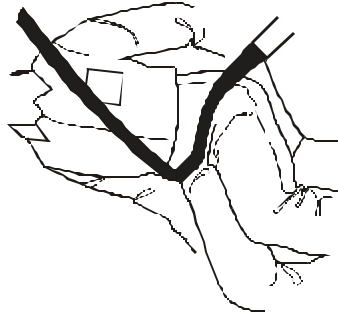
1. Observe officers on the job for consistent use of seat belts

2. Observe for unsafe placement of equipment and articles in duty vehicles

## Why Are These Examples Incorrect?



## Ways to Correct the Problem





**Insert Graphic of Seatbelts**

---

# Systems of Driving

---

## S.I.P.D.E.

- **Search**
  - Look for point ahead, steer toward it
- **Identify**
  - Look for hazards, calculate their effect
- **Predict**
  - Relate to past experience
- **Decide**
  - Choose a course of action
- **Execute**
  - Avoid the collision